

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANILA 14607 161031Z

20

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 IGA-01 OMB-01 ACDA-05 /056 W

----- 127491

P R 160945Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO DOD WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8585

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CNO

CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT

S E C R E T MANILA 14607

FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY CLEMENTS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, RP

SUBJECT: EXCESS VESSELS IN JAPAN

REFS: (A) MANILA 12803; (B) MANILA 13351; (C) MANILA 14062

(D) CINCPAC DTG 151847Z OCT; (E) TAIPEI 6473

1. FIVE WEEKS HAVE PASSED SINCE I OUTLINED PROSPECTS FOR SERIOUS POTENTIAL DAMAGE TO OUR INTERESTS HERE (REF. A) BECAUSE OF THE INCREDIBLE BLUNDER IN WHICH TWO DESTROYER ESCORTS PREVIOUSLY OFFERED TO THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT BY THE USG WERE LATER SOLD TO A TAIWAN SHIPBREAKER FOR SCRAP.

2. I APPRECIATED THE PROMPT ACTION TAKEN BY DOD TO PUT THE TAIWAN SALE ON ICE SO THAT THE LAWYERS COULD LOOK FOR ESCAPE CLAUSES OR OTHER WAYS TO CLEAR THE VESSELS FOR THEIR ORIGINAL DESTINATION. TO ASSIST IN THIS PROCESS, THIS EMBASSY AND CINCPAC RECOMMENDED (REF. C AND D) THAT SOME OF THE EX-MILITARY SEALIFT COMMAND LSTS IN JAPAN NOW

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BEING PREPARED FOR AUCTION BE PROVIDED TO THE TAIWAN SHIP-

BREAKER IN PLACE OF THE TWO DES. WE AWAIT WORD FROM WASHINGTON ON THIS PROPOSAL. EMBASSY TAIPEI (REF E) HAS INDICATED THAT SUCH A SUBSTITUTE WOULD LIKELY BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE TAIWAN SHIPBREAKER.

3. CONTINUING DELAY IN UNTANGLING THIS MESS IS BECOMING A PROBLEM. THE GOP IS AWARE OF THE ORIGINAL ERROR, BUT SEEMS TO ASSUME THAT ANYTHING SO PATENTLY WRONG WILL BE CORRECTED. ADMIRAL RUIZ, CNO OF PHILIPPINES, HAS JUST RETURNED FROM JAPAN WHERE HE INSPECTED THE TWO DES AND HAS REINFORCED HIS DESIRE TO ACQUIRE THEM SOONEST. AS WEEKS GO BY, THERE IS GROWING UNEASINESS ABOUT WHAT WE ARE UP TO. THERE HAS BEEN SOME SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT IN THE OVERALL POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE HERE CONCERNING THE BASES BUT ANY FURTHER DELAY IN DELIVERING ON THESE DES IN CLEARLY GOING TO SET US BACK.

4. I URGE YOUR PERSONAL ATTENTION IN CLEARING THESE TWO VESSELS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR DELIVERY TO THE GOP.

SULLIVAN

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NAVAL SHIPS, SURPLUS MILITARY EQUIPMENT SALES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**TAGS:** MARR, RP, JA, TW  
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